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- 1. New law authorizes registration penalties after July 1

With the passage of Senate Bill 6056, the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Aviation Division will begin issuing penalties for delinquent aircraft, pilot and mechanic registrations beginning July 1.

The WSDOT Aviation Division is gearing up to enforce the law, which increases pilot and mechanic registration fees from \$8 a year to \$15 and levies civil penalties against pilots, aircraft owners and mechanics who have not registered with the Department by the July 1 deadline.

Under the new law, aircraft owners who are not registered with WSDOT are subject to a civil penalty of \$100 per aircraft for the first violation. Subsequent violations in the same year are subject to penalties of up to \$400. The revision also makes pilots, airmen or airwomen and mechanics who have not registered by July 1, subject to a civil penalty of four times the fees that are due.

To enforce the law, WSDOT will rely on Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) lists to track down and charge errant Washington State aviators with the civil penalties. Gross misdemeanor penalties remain in law but will be used only as a last resort for compliance.

In an effort to speed adherence up, WSDOT Aviation initiated a 90 day amnesty period in April that allows pilots and aircraft owners to discharge any late registration fees prior to enforcement of the law in July.

To make sure everyone gets the word, WSDOT already has sent letters of explanation out to all Washington state aircraft owners registered with the FAA. Pilot and Mechanic Amnesty letters are scheduled to go out on May 15. These letters will notify all federally registered Washington state pilots and mechanics of the fee increase and the penalty schedule.

A second amnesty letter to aircraft owners is scheduled to go out by the end of May to alert them about the registration fee increase and the penalty schedule.

Other outreach activities are also being developed to alert Washington airmen, airwomen, mechanics and aircraft owners about the new legislation are also being developed.

Under the law, WSDOT Aviation must be informed of a change in ownership of a registered aircraft within 30 days. Aircraft owners also must show proof of registration when leasing hanger or tie down space at state municipal or port district airports.

Registration funds are used for aircraft search and rescue operations of lost and downed aircraft, aviation safety and education and volunteer support.

The amnesty program began April 1 and will continue until July 1. During that period, registrations can be made in person, by mail or via Aviation's new online registration site at www.wsdot.wa.gov/aviation The Aviation Division is located at 3704 172nd Street Northeast, Suite K, Arlington, WA 98223. By phone, call (360) 651-6399 or in-state at 1(800) 552-0666.

2. WSDOT Aviation earns kudos from King County Council

The King County Council recently recognized Theresa Smith, Manager, Aviation Services, at The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Aviation Division for her participation in a study advisory committee for the Boeing Field Part 150 Airport Noise Compatibility Study. Also in attendance was John Sibold, director of the WSDOT Aviation Division.

As a member of the committee, Smith helped to develop 11 recommendations to reduce current and future noise levels around King County International Airport. These recommendations will now go to the King County Council for approval at a public hearing before being submitted to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

The study was initiated to address noise impacts by looking at operational changes and land use compatibility. It was funded by a grant from the FAA and was coordinated by Airport staff. The advisory committee was comprised of Airport Roundtable members and representatives from other regional aviation and planning-related agencies.

Smith worked on the study advisory committee from June 1999 to January 2002.

Study Chair Jim Combs, Washington Pilot Association/AOPA representative also was honored for his commitment by Council Member Dow Constintine who presented him with a certificate for his participation on the committee.

For more information about the study, visit www.metrokc.gov/airport/noise/part150study.htm on the Internet

3. Strategic business plan to include key aviation stakeholders

The WSDOT Aviation Division is preparing to develop a strategic business plan for its future with the help of study teams made up of key stakeholders and members of the WSDOT Aviation Advisory Committee.

The team will identify program goals and performance indications. The team will use state accountability criteria, the WSDOT mission and state aviation policy, the Washington Transportation Plan, financial/fiscal impacts, and emerging trends to make their recommendations. Important to the plan are items like: business plan needs and the identification of outcomes that will lead to legislative agendas, business plan proposals and the WSDOT Aviation Division's advocacy role.

Identification of the program goals and performance indicators will lead into the development of program concepts in the business plan that will ultimately lead to program and budget implementation.

4. Community airports briefed on security

WSDOT Director John Sibold and Aviation Operations Manager Stan Allison presented the new WSDOT General Aviation Security Guidelines a recent meeting of the state's Transportation Commission. Although, WSDOT does not have the authority to regulate airport security, it is Sibold's belief that "it is important to demonstrate WSDOT's ability to self regulate general aviation security by promoting the program to community airports."

The Federal Transportation Security Agency has chosen not to regulate general aviation airports

The WSDOT program has been delivered to community airports throughout the state. It requires public use general aviation airports to conduct security inventories. Airports who apply for state grants for security improvements must have a security plan in place.

The WSDOT Aviation Division also has completed a vulnerability assessment of all general aviation airports, determining that they are at a minimum risk for use as tool for a terrorist attack.

5. Weather group looking for ways to team with WSDOT Aviation Division

Ed Boselly, of WSDOT's Roadway Weather Information Group, contacted the Aviation Division with a proposal to site a new weather radar station near Wenatchee. According to Boselly, the National Weather Service (NWS) and the WSDOT are very interested in augmenting weather radar coverage in the state.

Presently, NWS has only four stations, which are located on Camano Island, in Spokane and in Portland and Hermiston, Oregon.

WSDOT Aviation Division is interested in the project because it would provide pilots information on weather conditions in the central basin of Washington state.

6. Cle Elum Municipal eligible for much needed maintenance grants

Help is on the way for the Cle Elum Municipal Airport, which is owned by the City of Cle Elum. The airport is now eligible for Non-Primary Entitlement grant funds as well as Airport Improvement Program (AIP) funds from the Federal Aviation Association (FAA).

The funding provides a welcome relief for both the airport and those who fly in and out of it. Cle Elum Airport has desperately needed to make improvements to its landing strip but didn't have the money to do the repairs.

The Northwest Soaring Association had offered a source of funding when it recently proposed to lease and maintain the airport. The Association is still interested in acquiring the airport but will put its plans on hold based on potential federal funding options.

7. Search suspended for missing plane, pilots; WSDOT Aviation Division Moore praised for efforts

The search for the plane and two missing pilots has been suspended, according to Karl Moore, Washington State Department of Transportation Search and Rescue coordinator.

The plane and its passengers were last seen leaving Wenatchee last month for a return trip to their hometown of San Francisco. The all-volunteer search and rescue crew spent 3,500 hours looking for the aircraft. More than 300 sorties were flown covering the passes and most of Washington State.

The names of the men, and the tail number of their craft, are not being released at the request of their families.

What is known, however, is that the two were last seen flying out of Wenatchee on Thursday, April 17, for what was to be a routine trip home to San Francisco. They frequently flew to Wenatchee for business. They did not file a flight plan so their disappearance was not learned until April 18, when WSDOT Transportation's Aviation Division was notified.

The all-volunteer search was headquartered at the Pangborn Field in Wenatchee where the lost plane took off.

Rescue crews from the Civil Air Patrol, the military, private pilots and dozens of volunteers scoured the landscape throughout Washington.

Moore also is appreciative of the many local law enforcement officials whose help was very important in tracking the missing aviators last-known hours before they took off.

During the search, John Sibold, WSDOT Aviation Division Director, visited the Wenatchee airport search headquarters and praised WSDOT Search and Rescue Coordinator Moore for his 24/7 job as Incident Commander during the two-week search. According to Sibold, Moore organized the Incident Command Center during the search into different departments to better channel the flow of information and to minimize confusion.

While there, Sibold also took the opportunity to greet the crews as they completed their search missions and to thank them for their dedication.

8. Whatcom County seeks aviator support in developing land use policies

Whatcom County officials are hoping to garner support from pilots, aviation businesses and community organizations as it prepares comprehensive plan policies that would protect general aviation public use airports in that region from incompatible development.

There are two proposed policies. The first incorporates language to protect airports from adjacent incompatible development and references the WSDOT Aviation Land Use Compatibility guidelines. The second proposes forming an advisory committee to further review policies and implementation measures to protect airports.

9. Land use and airports a priority statewide

Senior Planner John Shambaugh met recently with The Washington State Community, Trade and Economic Growth Management Division to discuss coordination and implementation processes for land use and transportation planning efforts across the state.

Shambaugh provided attendees information on the WSDOT Aviation Division land use compatibility planning efforts. It was agreed that the Aviation Division would "continue and enhance" coordination and review processes with city and county comprehensive plans and development regulations.

WSDOT Aviation also asked the group to help convey to local governments the need to better evaluate airport and adjacent land use compatibility earlier in the development process.

Shambaugh had a similar agenda when he met with the Douglas County Regional Planning Commission and the City of East Wenatchee Planning Commission recently. The County is preparing background information to update the Greater East Wenatchee Area Comprehensive Plan that could impact land adjacent to the Pangborn Memorial Airport. Shambaugh asked them to consider the Aviation Division's land use compatibility program for protection of general aviation airports before moving forward.

10. Spring weather makes for earlier airport openings, promises of good fishing

For aviators, wanting to get aloft earlier this season to favorite airports, there's good news. Several airports closed in October for the winter season are now either open or soon will be, according to Jim Scott, State Airport Maintenance Supervisor. Updates to these openings will be posted on the Internet at www.wsdot.wa.gov/aviation as they occur and news advisory e-mails will be sent to subscribers of the WSDOT Aviation News Service.



Good fishing promised

The lower Granite State Airport is an excellent destination point, according to WSDOT Transportation Airport Maintenance Manager Jim Scott. There is a campground at the north end of the airport and the Almota Inn nearby. There also are boats for rent. Locals tell Scott that the "fishing is great."

As of April 30, the following airfields had opened:

- Avey: Open. When you land at Avey, avoid a visit by the border patrol by simply identifying yourself to U.S. Customs Services officials. Their office is located across the street from the airfield.
- Little Goose, Open
- Lower Granite, Open
- Lower Monumental, Open
- Methow Valley, Open. Park on the west side and not near the Smoke Jumper base. They are gearing
 up for a busy season so watch for jump planes and helicopters operating on the airport.
- Rogersburg, Open. Camping allowed but no fires. Watch for animals on the runway.
- Woodland, Open.
- Skykomish, Open. Camping allowed. Tie down area, picnic tables, fire rings water and toilet available.
- Sullivan Lake, Open. Camping allowed. Picnic tables and fire rings will be installed by June 1. Toilets available. Watch for animals and gopher holes on the runway.

Airports expected to open this month

- Ranger Creek, May 10.
- Easton, May 15.
- Tieton, May 15.
- Stehekin, May 31.

Airports expected to open in June

- Bandera, June 1. Presently, field is still too soft for operations.
- Copalis Beach, June 1.
- Lake Wenatchee, June 1. Runway is being re-graded.
- The Lower Monument Airport is in good condition and ready for a renewed flying season as evidenced by a recent trip there

11. Better communication a key goal for WSDOT Aviation Division

Keeping customers and stakeholders well informed about local and national aviation news is a top priority for the Aviation Division. With that in mind, a News Bureau Advisory Service has been established.

Fast-breaking news items are sent to Aviation Division customers by e-mail. The material also is reproduced on the WSDOT Aviation Division web site.

Response to the news bureau advisory has been overwhelmingly positive. Recipients have thanked WSDOT for providing the information in a timely manner and like the fact that the information the kind they can't find it anywhere else.

The News Bureau Advisory service to WSDOT Aviation Division clients is available by subscription at https://secure2.wsdot.wa.gov/air/index.cfm or by contacting Robin Warner, Aviation Outreach Coordinator, WSDOT Aviation Division, at AviOutC@wsdot.wa.gov PO Box 3367

Calendar

12. WSDOT Aviation Training

May 16, 17, 18 – Air Search and Rescue in Washington, Spokane.

September 13-14 - Mountain Flying Clinic, Wenatchee.

September 27-28 - ASARCO 101 orientation, Western Washington.

November 8-9 - ASAROC 101 orientation, Eastern Washington.

All training is by pre-registration. To sign up, call (360) 651-6300 or in-state call 1-800-552-0666. Pilots must be registered with the state in order to participate.

13. In The Community

May 3 through May 18 – Rocket Power: What came first, the rocket or the plane? Saturdays and Sundays, 11:15 a.m. and 1:15 p.m., The Museum of Flight, Seattle. Free with Museum admission.

May 10 – Arlington Appreciation Day and Centennial Celebration, Saturday. Free children's activities including free airplane rides for kits 7 to 18 with parental or guardian consent; FAA activities, City of Arlington Fire Department; World War II aircraft on display. For information, contact the airport at (360) 403-3470.

May 10 – Air Force One: Centennial of Flight Lecture by Kenneth T. Walsh, Saturday, 2p.m., The Museum of Flight, Seattle. Free with Museum admission.

May 17 – Comet Restoration Open House: the de Havilland Comet aircraft restoration, Saturday, 2 p.m., \$20 adults, free 18 and under. Comet Restoration Center, 2909 100th St. S.W., Hangar C72, Paine Field, Everett. For more information, call (425) 745-5150.

- May 17 The Lure of the Red Planet: Dr. Ron Hobbs, Saturday, 2 p.m., The Museum of Flight, Seattle. Free with Museum admission.
- May 20 The Rise and Fall of the Wrights: Royal Aeronautical Society Lecture, Tuesday, 6 p.m., The Museum of Flight, Seattle. Free.
- May 24-26 Memorial Day Weekend Salute to the Doolittle Raiders: Saturday, Sunday and Monday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., The Museum of Flight, Seattle. Free with Museum admission. On May 26, admission is free for veterans and current U.S. military personnel in uniform.
- May 24, 25 Button Up: Learn about aviation buttons, patches, badges and emblems, Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., The Museum of Flight, Seattle. Free with admission to Museum.
- May 29 FAA Flight Safety Seminar: Attendance counts toward the requirements of the FAA's Pilot Proficiency Awards (WINGS) Program, Thursday, 7 p.m., The Museum of Flight, Seattle. Free.
- May 31 through September 7 Space Toys, 130 Years of Imagination, Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., The Museum of Flight, Seattle. Free with Museum Admission.
- May 31 Super Soaring Space Toys: Grand opening Space Toys exhibit, Saturday, 11:15 a.m. and 1:15 p.m., The Museum of Flight, Seattle. Free with Museum admission.

For more information about Museum of Flight activities, visit http://www.museumofflight.org on the Internet.

July 9 to July 13 – Arlington Municipal Airport Northwest EAA Fly-In, Arlington. For more information, visit www.aerovents.com on the Internet.

14. Aviation Special Events

- May 10 Kennewick Vista Field Fly-in Breakfast. Sponsored by EAA Chapter 391. 509/735-1664. Event ID: 3971
- May 17 Pendleton Air Show, Eastern Oregon Regional Airport, Pendleton, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Donation: \$10 adults (12 years and older) \$20 for families. For information, contact the Pendleton Chamber of Commerce, 1-800-547-8911.
- May 17 Doolittle Raiders Celebration Big Band Ball, 7 p.m. to midnight. National Guard Army Aviation Hangar, 2110 N.W. 56th Drive, Pendleton. Tickets, \$30 at the door. For information, contact the Pendleton Chamber of Commerce, 1-800-547-8911.
- May 16, 17 and 18 Concrete Airport. 21st Annual Concrete Old Fashioned Fly-In. An event for all. Contact Bill Adams, (360) 826-3139 or e-mail him at awadams947@cs.com Event ID: 3844
- May 31 Everett Paine Field (PAE). General Aviation Days. Paine Field Chapter of WPA hosts a static airplane display, Young Eagle flights and pancake breakfast. Contact Russell Keyes, (425) 353-2110. Event ID: 3899

June 7 – Chelan. Lake Chelan Airport (S10). 4th Annual Fly-in. Pancake breakfast by EAA Chapter.424 and lunch by LakeAero FBO. Presenting Miss Veedol, 1931 Bellanca replica. Door prizes, intro flights, headset, gas. Contact Jan Liberty, (509) 682-3841 or visit www.lakeaero.biz



Miss Veedol at the Pangborn Memorial Airport in Wenatchee, after her historical flight from Japan in 1935.

June 7 and 8 – Okanogan Legion Airport (S35). 20th Annual Okanogan Fly-in and First EAA Chapter 1286 Kit Fox/Builders Fly-in. Activities include spot landings and other contests with prizes, seminars of interest to pilots, non-pilots and the public. Home-built aircraft vendors, kids activities, food, exhibits, displays and much, much more. Camping on field or lodging available. Contact Tia Woolley, (509) 422-0220; or e-mail her at tia@okanoganairport.com. Visit the organization's web site at www.okanoganairport.com. Event ID: 3824

June 28 -- Prosser Airport (S40). Fly-in Breakfast. Sponsored by EAA Chapter 391. (509) 735-1664. Event ID: 3972

July 5 – Twisp Municipal Airport (2S0). Pancake Breakfast, 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. Contact Paul Wagner, (509) 997-3953; pilot@methow.com. Or visit the organization's web site at http://www.methow.com/. Event ID: 4066

July 9-13 – Northwest EAA Arlington Fly-In, Arlington Municipal Airport, Arlington. For information, call (360) 403-3470.

July 19 and 20 – Port Townsend Jefferson County International Airport. Airport Days 2003. Antique and homebuilt aircraft, classic cars: sponsored by EAA Chapter 1026 and Port of Port Townsend. Contact Dick Hill, (360) 385-4356 or e-mail him at dickhill@olympus.net.

Aug. 15, 16, 17 – Northwest Antique Airplane Club Fly-In, McMinnville, Oregon. For information, call (360) 892-1817 or visit www.nwaac.com on the Internet.

Aug 30 – Prosser Airport, Prosser. 20th Annual Labor Day Fly-in. Sponsored by EAA Chapter 391. (509) 735-1664.

Born of Dreams – Inspired by Freedom Centennial of Flight 1903 - 2003